

Message Text

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11

ACTION SS-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-03 IO-03 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SP-02 PM-03

INR-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 OMB-01 L-01 EUR-08 EA-06 NEA-06

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R 291700Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2844

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 12488

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG

SUBJECT: PRODUCER/CONSUMER CONFERENCE

REF: A. STATE 196703

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B. EC BRUSSELS 7503

SUMMARY: DURING MEETING WITH ECOMIN AUGUST 29, MFA ENERGY CO-ORDINATOR MIGLIUOLO UPDATED DEVELOPMENTS RE GOI AND EC RESPONSE TO FRENCH AIDE MEMOIRE ON RESUMPTION OF THE PRODUCER/CONSUMER DIALOGUE (REF A). GOI RESPONSE WILL NOTE RESERVATIONS BUT NOT RPT NOT OBJECT TO ISSUANCE OF INVITATIONS. RE PROGRESS IN EC, MIGLIUOLO DOUBTS THAT COMMON POSITION WILL BE REACHED BEFORE LATE SEPTEMBER AT EARLIEST. ALTHOUGH FRENCH ORIGINALLY DESIRED ISSUE INVITATIONS BEFORE UNGA SPECIAL SESSION, MIGLIUOLO BELIEVES OVERRIDING FRENCH CONCERN TO AVOID REPEAT OF APRIL PREPCON FAILURE WILL CAUSE FRENCH TO WORK FOR GREATER CONSENSUS AMONG PARTICIPANTS BEFORE PROCEEDING TO FORMAL INVITATIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. ACCORDING TO MIGLIUOLO, GOI INITIAL RESPONSE TO FRENCH AIDE MEMOIRE (WHICH HE INDICATED MIGHT BE SOON) WILL EXPRESS RESERVATIONS PENDING CLARIFICATION OF SEVERAL SUBSTANTIVE AND PROCEDURAL POINTS. HOWEVER, IT WILL NOT RPT NOT EXPLICITLY RAISE OBJECTIONS TO ISSUANCE OF INVITATIONS. MIGLIUOLO OBSERVED THAT FRENCH AIDE MEMOIRE FAILED TO DEFINE PRECISE MANDATES AND TERMS OF REFERENCE OF FOUR COMMISSIONS. PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT, IN HIS VIEW, IS ROLE OF FOURTH COMMISSION, WHERE POSITIONS OF DC'S AND LDC'S STILL SEEM TO BE FAR APART. HE NOTED THAT ORIGINAL FRENCH INTENTION HAD BEEN TO ISSUE INVITATIONS PRIOR TO UNGA SPECIAL SESSION IN ATTEMPT TO SOFTEN THIRD WORLD RHETORIC. NONETHELESS, MIGLIUOLO WAS CONFIDENT THAT FRENCH RECOGNIZED NEED FOR CAREFUL PREPARATIONS AND CLOSE COORDINATION TO AVOID REPETITION OF PREPCON FAILURE. ACCORDINGLY, HE BELIEVES FRENCH WILL DELAY ISSUANCE OF INVITATION UNTIL CLOSER CONSENSUS REACHED BETWEEN DC'S AND LDC'S.

2. MIGLIUOLO CONFIRMED REF B THAT PROGRESS ON FORMULATING EC COMMON POSITION FOR PREPCON AND EC RESPONSE TO THE FRENCH AIDE MEMOIRE WAS PROCEEDING SLOWLY. HE NOTED AUGUST 22 COREPER MEETING WAS INCONCLUSIVE; MOST DELEGATES PREFERRED NOT TO CONFRONT THE FRENCH DIRECTLY BUT WERE CONTENT TO ASK FOR EXPLANATIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS. WORK ON THE COMMON POSITION WILL BE CONCENTRATED IN THE SO-CALLED "DUBLIN GROUP" OF HIGH OFFICIALS. MIGLIUOLO DOES NOT EXPECT AN EC POSITION PRIOR TO END OF SEPTEMBER AT THE EARLIEST.

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3. MIGLIUOLO OPINED THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER'S SPEECH BEFORE THE SPECIAL SESSION WOULD SET TONE FOR EVENTUAL P/C DIALOGUE. EC'S STATEMENT WOULD BE SOLID AND FORTHCOMING, HE SAID, BUT INEVITABLY WOULD PLAY SECOND-FIDDLE TO US STATEMENT. VOLPE

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